

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Niewerth Building

and/or common Hamling's Tavern

2. Location

street & number 124 East Main Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Delphi N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Carroll code 015

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Lloyd and Marcia Phillips

street & number 124 East Main Street

city, town Delphi N/A vicinity of state Indiana 46923

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carroll County Recorder's Office

street & number Courthouse

city, town Delphi state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date February, 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records Indiana Department of Natural Resources

city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Frederick Niewerth Building is a two-story brick building in the Italianate style. Constructed in 1874 of soft brick, its surfaces were coated with stucco in the 1930's, giving them a smooth appearance. The building's size is 30 feet x 74 feet with attic space appearing as a half-story in front and sloping to the rear.

The facade has five bays, separated by pilasters. Windows decrease in size from floor to top, where corbeled cornices have limestone "croquets" at the corners. Hood molds are semi-circular for round headed windows of the outer bays, and are brick with keystones and label stops of limestone. The small upper windows have 2 over 2 lights while second story windows have 4 over 4.

In the center bay a limestone nameplate, stuccoed, appears beneath a curved mold. Its legend shows "1874 Fred. Niewerth," and it is placed at the top of the bay. Below it is a double six-paned window with a cameo window complete with tracery. This unit rises from near the floor and can open as doors.

A triangular-arched entry is below the cameo window unit at the ground floor. It is flanked on each side by double windows with round-arched windows above. Originally, a limestone sill was across the front, but at some time in the past it was cut and the entry section removed. The entry now has the doors flush with the floor.

The east side of the building is nine bays wide. Corbeled cornices, each three bays wide, are stepped down from front to rear, and "croquets" show at each step. The second story has nine segmental arched windows with 4 over 4 lights. Each opening has a hood mold with keystone and label stops of limestone. On this side the fenestration places three window openings per step. The lower floor has three cameo windows (one with original tracery) spaced below the first five openings. At the rear of the first floor three windows and a door repeat the lights and molds of the upper openings. The entry (on the east side) gives access to both first and second floors. Its transom is segmentally arched.

The rear of the building has three bays. The windows uppermost have no molds but do have a curved effect made in the stucco wall fabric. Below is a blind window, rear door with segmentally arched transom, and a window functional with louver. Concrete steps reach each of the rear doors. An iron fence has been re-installed where one once stood.

The west wall serves as a joining wall and has no apparent openings.

At one time there were six chimneys, one on each side per stepped cornice area. The advent of central heating has left one showing.

The interior of the Niewerth Building is to be used as a business area downstairs and an apartment on the upper floor.

The second story of the Niewerth Building is reached by a stairway which rises from the east entrance near the rear of the building. Short steps allow entry to the landing from the first floor. At the top of the stairs a balustrade with walnut rails and oak spindles flanks the upper steps. An entry hall gives access to various areas.

At the south the hallway, at some time, had been cut off, with access given through a large room at the southeast corner. Arches had been made in the original hallway, indicating the two south rooms may have been an apartment at one time. The rooms are presently used for storage.

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Continuation sheet Niewerth Building

Item number 7

Page 1

A two bedroom apartment is being developed where once an earlier living space was used. An attempt has been made to retain and restore elements which were original to the building. Prior to the present renovation there had been no gas, water, or electric service to the upper floor.

Original ceilings were $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet. These have been retained except in the bathroom and kitchen area where they are now 8 feet.

At the front of the apartment a seven foot arch between kitchen and dining room, and a five foot arch between the dining room and living room have been retained. It is believed these features were incorporated in the apartment probably in the 1930's. These arches allow more light to reach the interior. Some windows had hand graining and these windows were exchanged with those in the dining room, bringing them into more prominence.

Flooring upstairs is all original poplar, five-inch tongue and groove boards. All doors have segmental transoms which are operable. The central hallway is 4 feet wide and gives access to all rooms of the apartment. The hallway was returned to its original construction (at one time a bedroom entry and window had been changed).

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1874

Builder/Architect

Builders: Samuel Freshour, J. R. Shockley

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Built to house a grocery store and a residence, the Niewerth Building is significant for its rather unusual architecture. Little altered since its construction, the building has been an important part of the commercial area for over one hundred years.

The important Main Street site, just a block from the Courthouse, was occupied by a small tailor shop until Frederick Niewerth purchased the property in 1874. Construction of his two-story business block began immediately. The building was designed with the grocery on the first floor and the Niewerth family quarters above. The family resided here until 1881, when Niewerth lost his business and the building to his creditors.

For the next one hundred years, one of Niewerth's creditors, the Hemmerling (Hamling) family owned the building. The Hamling Building housed a tavern, operated by the family for many years. Later, the building was leased. Little change was made to the building over the years and it remained essentially intact when it was purchased for restoration in 1981.

The Italianate style was extremely popular in Indiana throughout the 19th century. Delphi was the site of some extremely elaborate interpretations of the style in the last half of the century and many survive today, making the small county seat an unusually picturesque town. Although the Niewerth Building is not the most elaborate of the commercial Italianates in the commercial area, it is one of the least altered and one of the most unusual in its elements, especially in the variety of window openings. The round arch, pointed arch, oculus and segmental arch openings all combine to make the structure a unique and exciting part of the commercial district.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Carroll County Interim Report, Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory,
Indiana Department of Natural Resources, 1980.
Delphi Journal, April, 1874.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Delphi, Indiana

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6
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5	2	7	6	9	0
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4	4	9	2	6	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification East one-half of Lot 25. Starting at the intersection of East Main Street and Union Street, commencing at east corner and running 30 feet on Main Street; then south 120 feet to alley; then 30 feet to Union Street; thence 120 feet to starting point.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lloyd Phillips, Owner
Dennis McCouch

organization Carroll County Historical Society date December 27, 1983

street & number 124 East Main Street telephone 317/564-3543

city or town Delphi state Indiana 46923

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. M. Redman*

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer date 4-19-84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration